



November 27, 2001

TO: Area Directors

FROM: Director

SUBJECT: Area Tribal Leaders Meeting to Select Area Representatives to the Indian Health Design Team II Workgroup --ACTION

During the November 1 Indian Health Leadership Council conference call, I announced that I would be informing tribal leaders about charging a new tribal-Federal workgroup to re-examine the function and structure of the Indian Health Service (IHS). This workgroup will become the Indian Health Design Team II (IHDT-II).

I am attaching my letter to tribal leaders informing them of the design effort and providing a copy of the workgroup's charge. The first workgroup meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 23-24, 2002. Please convene a meeting of tribal leaders in your Area as soon as possible to select an Area tribal representative to serve on the workgroup. Please submit your Area tribal representative's name, title, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address to Ms. Sharon Hoppman, Special Assistant to the Director, by close of business on December 7.

Dr. Kathleen Annette has accepted the role as the Federal Co-Chair. This undertaking is a tremendous challenge and the work must be accomplished in a very short time of 4 months. I expect that all of you will lend your support to Dr. Annette and provide Area staff to assist her and the workgroup as she deems necessary.

Thank you for your anticipated support and cooperation in this effort.

Michael H. Trujillo, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.
Assistant Surgeon General

Attachments